

Did we have a possible subspecies? At the National Museum of Natural History we examined the *E. laeta* series. The males were very much like ours. The bright blue specimens were the females and even some females were rather dark. With this in mind the collector should not be looking for *E. laeta* in the spring as a blue butterfly since seventy-five percent of them are dark.

We are still sure *Erora laeta* exists in the Canadian Zone of Western Maryland and hope to locate some in the future.

Some facts that could be pertinent are the associated species. Our *E. laeta* was flying at the tail end of a *Celastrina argiolus pseudargiolus* (Boisduval and LeComte). and with *Lycaena phlaeus americana* (Harris).

*Glaucopsyche lygdamus nittanyensis* (Chermock) were fresh while *Erynnis juvenalis* (Fabricius) were slightly worn. The spring zebra swallowtail *Graphium marcellus* (Cramer) were also worn. *Papilio troilus* (Linnaeus) were fresh. This flight period information should be a clue as to when to look for *E. laeta*.

## Notes on Maryland Lepidoptera No. 9: Seven new butterfly records for the state of Maryland

Our continued study of Maryland Lepidoptera is often greatly assisted by fellow collectors usually covering new areas or areas where we have not concentrated our collecting.

1. Mr. Elra Palmer of Baltimore kindly gave the senior author a few Maryland butterflies from his collection.

Much to the senior author's surprise there was a California Dogface Sulphur butterfly, *Colias elirydice* (Bois.) among the group. The specimen was collected on July 6, 1933 at Deal Island, Somerset County, Maryland. The butterfly was collected by a beetle collector who did not know Lepidoptera. He saw the specimen on a flower and thought it was unusually colorful, whereupon he took it for his friend, Elra Palmer, a butterfly collector.

How the butterfly got to Maryland is a mystery. One guess would be that the crysalis was on a plant bought in California, shipped to Maryland and he crysalis hatched upon destination.

This record is not published as an indigenous species but rather as a curiosity. (ed. it may be a convergent aberration.)

2. During two consecutive summers in the sixties the senior author visited Ocean City, Maryland, during August. On both occasions he was playing checkers under a beach umbrella. Along came a Gulf Fritillary, *Agraulis vanillae nigror* (Michener) which slowly fluttered under the umbrella toward the red checker board. On realizing the red was not a flower, the butterfly took off up the beach with great speed making capture impossible. The senior author was quite frustrated since there are no legitimate records from Maryland and sight records are not reliable.

However, on August 15, 1978, Mr. William Grooms collected two specimens five miles north of Salisbury, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore. They were fighting while flying along a dirt road and were netted in mid-air.

The capture certifies the senior author's sightings and represents the first Maryland records. Bill very kindly gave us a specimen for our collection.

3. *Erynnis persius* (Scud.), has been recorded for Washington, D.C., by Clark (1932). However, he confused this butterfly with *E. baptisiae* (Forbes). Dr. John Burns, working with this group, could find no Maryland records in the Smithsonian collection. However, he did identify a male *E. persius* in the junior author's collection that was collected on May 12, 1955, at Piney Grove, Allegany County, Maryland. This record constitutes the first known Maryland capture.

4. On August 23, 1979, Mr. William Grooms collected a fresh *Oligoria maculata* (Edw.) on fresh blossoms of Hercules Club, *Araua spinosa* near Seneca, Montgomery County, Maryland. The Hercules Club was located along the edge of a deciduous forest. This represents the first known specimen from the state of Maryland. Bill was very kind to give us the specimen for further study.

5. Mr. William Grooms collected a fresh *Polites v. vibex* (Geyer), on fresh flowers of Hercules Club, *Araua spinosa* on August 30, 1979, within the town limits of Lexington Park, St. Mary's County, Maryland. The Hercules Club was also at the margin of a woods.

This specimen is the first known of its kind from the state of Maryland and again Bill was kind enough to donate the specimen to our studies.

6. Dr. John Glaser of Baltimore made a field trip to Dorchester County, Maryland on July 23, 1979. He was actually in search of *Poannes viator* (Edwards) and *Poannes aaroni* (Skinner.) Near the

town of Robbins he found some flowering swamp milkweed on which he collected two skippers. After a close examination they proved to be a worn pair of *Problema byssus* (Edw.) The species is one we have been trying to discover for years and constitutes the first Maryland record.

7. Mr. Franklin Chermock had collected *Calpododes ethlius* (Stoll) in great numbers in Florida. He therefore was aware of its habits and the tactics of its larva.

On August 16, 1956, walking near some large Canna beds near Druid Hill Park in Baltimore, he thought he saw some typical larva shelters on the plants. He examined some of the Canna plants and discovered many larvae in all stages of development. After finding several full grown larvae they were taken home to pupate and emerge. These hatched into *C. ethlius*, which has been reported previously in Washington, D.C. (Clark), but this is the first Maryland record.

#### The summarized data follow:

Species	Date	Locality
1. <i>Colias elirydice</i>	VII-6-33	Deal Island, Somerset County
2. <i>Agraulis vanillae nigrior</i>	VII-15-78	Hebron, Wicomico County
3. <i>Erynnis persius</i>	V-12-55	Piney Grove, Allegany County
4. <i>Oligoria maculata</i>	VIII-23-79	Seneca, Montgomery County
5. <i>Polites v. vibex</i>	VIII-30-79	Lexington Park, St. Mary's County
6. <i>Problema byssus</i>	VII-23-79	Robbins, Dorchester County
7. <i>Calpododes ethlius</i>	VIII-16-56	Baltimore City, Maryland

#### Literature Cited

- Andersen, W.A., and Simmons, R.S., (1976). Contribution #5. Notes on Maryland Lepidoptera. A new subspecies of *Poanes massasoit* (Hesperiidae). Journal of Lepid. Soc. 30 (1) 19-22.